### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Paolo CASALI, ET AL.

Appln. No. 10/672,047

Filing Date: September 26, 2003

Title: HITCH DEVICE FOR ATTACHING FARM IMPLEMENTS TO A
TRACTOR

TRACTOR

Examiner: NYA

Confirm. No.: 4671

May 18, 2004

#### MS MISSING PARTS

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

### Dear Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97–98 and in accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

The information cited on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08a, together with a copy of the non-U.S.-patent document cited, is herewith submitted for the Examiner's review and consideration in connection with the above-identified application. Each of the cited documents was cited in the corresponding European Patent Application, which has been given publication number EP 1 403 102 A1.

Applicants request that the Examiner indicate consideration of the cited information by initialing the row containing the cite for each document on the enclosed form and signing and dating the form.

Since this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to a first office action on the merits, no fee is believed due. However, should it be determined that any fee is due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 14-0780.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New Holland, Pennsylvania office by telephone at (717) 355-4954.

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney for Applicants

Collin A. Webb Reg. No. 44,396

CNH America LLC Intellectual Property Law Dept. Mail Stop 641 500 Diller Avenue P.O. Box 1895 New Holland, Pennsylvania 17557-0903

PTO/SB/08a (08-03)
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Sheet	1	of		

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Complete if Known				
Application Number	10/672,047			
Filing Date	September 26, 2003			
First Named Inventor	Paolo Casali, et al.			
Art Unit	3618			
Examiner Name	NYA			
Attorney Docket Number	17439			

	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No.1	Document Number  Number Kind Code (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
	1	US- 3,795,415	03-05-1974	Koch et al.			
	2	US- 4,702,489	10-27-1987	Erickson			
	3	US- 3,731,745	05-08-1973	Koch			
	4	US- 2001/007399 A1	07-12-2001	Jung et al.			
	5	US- 6,218,737	04-17-2001	Adamek, et al.			
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	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Cite		Foreign Patent Document  Office <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind <sup>6</sup>		Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant		
Initials*	No.1	Oilice	Number	(if known)	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Oned Document	Figures Appear T <sup>6</sup>	Τ <sup>6</sup>
	6	EP	1 403 102	Al	03-31-2003	CNH Italia S.p.A.	Search Report	
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Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.